

## SENSOR WITH IMPROVED SHELF LIFE

### Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention provides a metal electrode stabilised by a coating, the coating comprising a sulfur containing moiety in its molecular structure. The coating may also include a hydrophilic group and a spacer between the sulfur containing moiety and the hydrophilic group. Preferably, the sulphur-containing moiety is selected from the group comprising thiol, disulphide and SO<sub>x</sub>, and the hydrophilic group is selected from the group comprising hydroxyl, amine, carboxyl, carbonyl, oligo (ethylene oxide) chain, and zwitterionic species. Compounds useful in the present invention include 2-mercaptoethanol, 2-mercaptopethylamine, 3-mercaptopropionic acid, thiophene, 4-carboxythiophene, cysteine, homocysteine, and cystine.